

In re: Hermanus et al.
Serial No.: 10/031,222
Filed: June 4, 2002
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Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph at page 1, lines 5-9 with the following rewritten paragraph with section headings as noted.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

(3) This invention relates to the use of magnetic or magnetizable particles, and, in particular, to methods and related devices used in ef mixing magnetic or (super)paramagnetic particles efficiently with a fluid and the separation of the magnetic particles from a fluid, optionally followed by resuspension of the particles in another fluid.

~~The invention further provided a device for doing the same.~~

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

(3) Please replace the paragraph at page 3, lines 1-3 with the following rewritten paragraph with a section heading as noted.

~~meant for separation purposes. It is disclosed in the patent that the device may further comprise means ~~or~~ for agitating the reagents within the containers.~~

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

(3) Please delete the paragraph at page 2, lines 12-18.

Please add the paragraph deleted at page 2, lines 12-18 as noted above, as a new paragraph inserted at page 3, line 20, before the paragraph thereat starting with the word "Thus," as restated below.

(3) ~~The method and device according to the invention are especially suitable for use with isolation procedures, where, usually an ingredient is to be isolated in rather pure form from a relatively large volume of sample fluid, and concentrated into a smaller volume of another fluid to be suitable for further use. In the case of a method for the~~

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33 Isolation of nuclei acid such further use may be a nucleic acid amplification method or an assay for the detection of nuclei acid or both

Please add the following new section at page 3, line 20, after the new paragraph noted immediately hereinabove and before the paragraph starting with the word "Thus."
This new section moves the existing section from its present location near the rear of the document.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

Figure 1: The basic concept of an array according to the invention.

Figure 2: Device wherein the holders for the containers and the magnets are placed in intervening array geometries and the magnets are placed in line in such a way that magnets of opposite polarities can be moved back and forth on straight parallel paths along opposite sites of each container in such a way that the direction of the magnetic field in each container is repeatedly reversed.

Figure 3: Device wherein the containers are part of a closed system, e.g. a tube.

Figure 4: Device wherein the magnets can also be moved in a vertical direction so as to be positioned at different heights with respect to the walls of the containers and the containers are tube-shaped vessels provided with a tip for holding small liquid volumes.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Please delete the section at page 8, lines 37 et seq. to page 9, lines 1-7, entitled BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES.